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NRD-6938-59

16 October 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Development Branch, NRD

SUBJECT : Geological Survey of Waterboss for USGS

1. [redacted] has advised me that a USGS survey team is on site at the Nevada Test Site. He is of the view that it would be profitable for us to request this team to make a survey of the Waterboss area with a view to determining the status of the water table there. 25X1

2. As you know, at the moment, we have two operating wells, one of which came in at something over 900 feet and the other in excess of 1100 feet. At the moment, they are reportedly producing 30 gallons per minute between them. A ball-park estimate on water requirements for the Ranch when it becomes operational runs to 250 gallons per minute. Obviously all of our plans for the Ranch are subordinate to being able to produce necessary water.

3. Accordingly, I have called Col. Hood, DMA, Deputy Director Division of Military Application, and requested him to divert the USGS team to the Ranch so that they can make a survey as I have indicated above.

4. Col. Hood has indicated that he would comply immediately and if the survey is to be performed without charge, no problem will exist. If a charge is to be made, it will be billed us by the Commission directly once USGS has billed them. I agreed with Col. Hood that we would not attempt to drill a well until we had looked at the geological survey and had obtained some cost estimates from the well diggers.

SIGNED

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Chief, Administrative Branch
NRD

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